

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A gaming device configured to operate to request and receive funds electronically, said gaming device comprising:

a game processor configured to operate to receive a wager from a player to initiate a wagering game;

an EFT controller configured to operate to process an electronic fund request by the player, the EFT controller configured to operate without direct communication between the game processor and the EFT controller;

a card reader configured to operate with the EFT controller; and

a payment device configured to operate with the game processor, ~~the payment device configured to operate~~ to provide a monetary amount to a player after a card is inserted into the card reader and after receiving an approval for the electronic fund transfer request from a remote fund repository that communicates with the EFT controller via a banking network and without said approval being communicated from the EFT controller to the game processor; and

a housing that supports the EFT controller, the game processor, the card reader, and the payment device.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the card is selected from the group consisting of: a credit card, debit card, gaming establishment-card card, and any combination thereof.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the amount is of a type selected from the group consisting of: a ticket, one or more gaming device credits, one or more gaming device tokens, one or more coins, a lottery ticket, and any combination thereof.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the payment device is one selected from the group consisting of: a ticket printer, a hopper, a credit meter, a gaming establishment card/account, a lottery ticket ~~issuer~~issuer, and any combination thereof.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 1, which includes a first display configured to operate with the EFT controller to display electronic fund transfer information to the user.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 5, which includes an additional second display configured to display the wagering game of the gaming device.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The gaming device of Claim 1, which includes an input device operable with the EFT controller to enable the user to input electronic fund transfer information.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the banking network includes ~~is~~ a wide area network.

Claim 9 (original): The gaming device of Claim 1, wherein the banking network includes an internet.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 1, which includes a local casino network that interfaces ~~between~~ the banking network with ~~and~~ the game processor.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 10, wherein the local casino network supports at least one other function selected from the group consisting of: a promotions function, one or more casino-player fund transfers, a player tracking function, and any combination thereof.

Claim 12 (original): The gaming device of Claim 10, wherein the local casino network communicates with a ticket validation system that logs the monetary amount provided to the player.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 10, which includes an integrated circuit board ~~that~~ configured to provide an interfaces between the game processor and the local casino network.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A gaming device configured to operate to transfer funds electronically for use by a player, said gaming device comprising:

a housing;

a first processor supported by the housing and configured to operate to:

(a) receive an electronic fund transfer request from the player, the request including at least an account number and a requested amount of money, and

(b) send the request to a remote fund repository that generates a response to the request, said response to the request indicative of whether the remote fund repository approved the request; and

(c) receive the response to the request;

a ticket printer supported by the housing; and

a second processor supported by the housing and configured to cause the ticket printer to print a ticket with the requested amount if the response to the request is indicative that the remote fund repository approved the request~~an approval~~, the second processor configured to operate without direct communication between the first processor and the second processor and without said response to the request being communicated from the first processor to the second processor.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The gaming device of Claim 14, wherein the fund transfer request includes at least one selected from the group consisting of: a personal identification number, ~~the amount~~ and an election for a transfer from a credit account or a debit account.

Claim 16 (cancelled).

Claim 17 (currently amended): A system for transferring funds electronically to a gaming device for use by a player, said system comprising:

a gaming device having a EFT control unit and a game processor;

a first network configured to operate to access a remote fund repository, the remote fund repository ~~that is~~ configured to receive an electronic fund transfer request from the EFT control unit of the gaming device and to provide a response to the electronic fund transfer request; and

a second network ~~that is~~ configured to communicate with the game processor of the gaming device to credit the player a monetary amount if the response from the remote fund repository ~~is~~ includes an approval, the second network being different than the first network, the gaming device ~~game processor~~ configured to operate without direct communication between the EFT control unit and the game processor and without said response being communicated from the EFT control unit to the game processor.

Claim 18 (original): The system of Claim 17, wherein the first network includes an internet.

Claim 19 (currently amended): The system of Claim 17, which includes a plurality of remote fund repositories linked to one another and to the gaming device via the first network.

Claim 20 (original): The system of Claim 17, which includes a plurality of gaming devices linked by the second network.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The system of Claim 20, wherein at least two of the gaming devices enable a player to wager on at least two ~~play~~ different types of games.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The system of Claim 17, wherein the second network includes ~~is~~ a local area network.

Claim 23 (cancelled).

Claim 24 (currently amended): The system of Claim 17, which includes a ticket printer configured to ~~that~~ prints a ticket ~~with~~ indicating the monetary amount.

Claim 25 (original): The system of Claim 24, wherein the ticket printer is located in the gaming device.

Claim 26 (currently amended): A method of providing a monetary amount for use at a gaming device in a gaming establishment, said method comprising:

transmitting from a first processor of the gaming device a fund request amount to a remote fund repository;

receiving, at a second processor of the gaming device, a response from the remote fund repository without direct communication between the first processor and the second processor and without said response being communicated from the first processor to the second processor, the response indicating whether the remote fund repository approved the request;

providing the amount for use at the gaming device if the response indicates that the remote fund repository approved the request ~~is an approval;~~ and

informing the gaming establishment of the amount provided for use at the gaming device.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The method of Claim 26, wherein providing the amount for use at the gaming device includes at least one selected from the group consisting of: crediting a credit meter of the gaming device; issuing a number of tokens from a hopper; issuing a lottery ticket; and ~~printing a receipt and any combination thereof.~~

Claim 28 (currently amended): The method of Claim 26, wherein transmitting the fund request from the first processor includes transmitting the fund request amount over a wide area network.

Claim 29 (currently amended): The method of Claim 26, wherein receiving at the second processor of the gaming device, the response includes receiving the response over ~~from~~ a local area network.